

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 096508

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJECT: DPC MINISTERIAL COMMUNIQUE

1. WE THINK MAIN THRUST OF COMMUNIQUE TO BE ISSUED AT END OF
DPC MINISTERIAL MEETING IN BRUSSELS, 22-23 MAY, SHOULD BE
THAT OF MINISTERIAL AGREEMENT ON GUIDANCE FOR FUTURE
NATO DEFENSE PLANNING, COVERING ACTIONS TO BE PUT UNDER WAY
IN SHORT AND MEDIUM TERM PLANNING STRESSING EXPLICITLY THE
NEED FOR PROGRESS IN RATIONALIZATION, STANDARDIZATION AND
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SHARPENING PRIORITIES, AND INCORPORATING A CONCEPT FOR NATO
DEFENSE OVER THE LONGTERM. WITH THIS CONTENT AND DIRECTION,
COMMUNIQUE SHOULD FURNISH A FIRM SECURITY BASE FOR MEETING
OF NATO HEADS OF GOVERNMENT THE FOLLOWING WEEK.

2. CONTENT, ROLE AND IMPORTANCE OF THE LONG-RANGE CONCEPT SHOULD BE MADE CLEAR IN COMMUNIQUE.
3. AS A MINIMUM, COMMUNIQUE SHOULD HAVE ATTACHED THOSE PARAGRAPHS OF THE MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE WHICH CONTAIN OR DEAL WITH THE LONG-RANGE CONCEPT.
4. MISSION SHOULD TAKE UP MATTER WITH INTERNATIONAL STAFF AND OTHER DELEGATIONS AS APPROPRIATE, IN ORDER TO ENSURE PROPER CONVERGENCE IN COMMUNIQUE.
5. AS SEPARATE QUESTION, WE WOULD APPRECIATE MISSION VIEWS ON DESIRABILITY AND FEASIBILITY OF SEPARATE RELEASE OF ENTIRE MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE IN SANITIZED AND UNCLASSIFIED FORM, TO BRING NATO DEFENSE PLANNING INTO BETTER PUBLIC FOCUS. WE WOULD FAVOR SUCH AN UNCLASSIFIED VERSION.

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